

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of:

D'Astolfo et al.

Patent No.: 6,818,106

Filed: November 13, 2003

Confirmation No.: 4260

Atty. Ref. No.: 02-0319

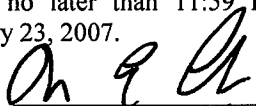
For: "INERT ANODE ASSEMBLY "

**TRANSMITTAL AND
CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION
UNDER 37 C.F.R § 1.8**

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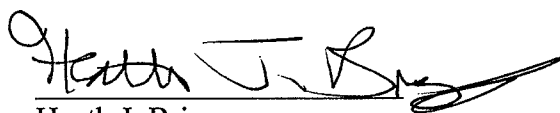
The following documents are being transmitted herewith to the United States Patent and Trademark Office via the USPTO electronic filing system:

- Request for Certificate of Correction for PTO Mistake (8 pages)

GREENBERG TRAURIG, LLP

Date:

February 23, 2007



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of: D'Astolfo et al.)	<u>REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF</u>
Patent No.: US 6,818,106 B2)	
Date of Patent: November 16, 2004)	<u>CORRECTION FOR PTO MISTAKE</u>
Atty. File No.: 02-0319)	(37 C.F.R. § 1.322(A))
Title: "INERT ANODE ASSEMBLY")	

Commissioner for Patents
Office of Patent Publication
Attention: Certificates of Correction Branch
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sirs,

This is a request for a Certificate of Correction for PTO mistake under 37 C.F.R. 1.322(a). The errors in the patent are obvious typographical errors or omissions and the correct wording can be found in the Specification filed on November 13, 2003 at Page 15, Paragraph [0033], Line 2 and the Listing of Claims filed November 13, 2003, at Page 3, Original Claim 7 (now Final Claim 6), Line 14; Page 4, Original Claim 10 (now Final Claim 8), Line 10; and Page 5, Original Claim 14 (now Final Claim 10), Line 1. Attached is form PTO/SB/44 in duplicate along with copies of documentation that unequivocally supports patentee's assertion(s).

Respectfully Submitted,

Dated: February 23, 2007 By: Heath J. Briggs

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

Page 1 of 1

PATENT NO. : US 6,818,106

APPLICATION NO.: 10/713,798

ISSUE DATE : 11/16/2004

INVENTOR(S) : LeRoy E. D'Astolfo and Calvin Bates

It is certified that an error appears or errors appear in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Column 7, line 27: replace "birth line" with "bath line"

Column 8, line 13: remove "." after "1000° C"

Column 8, line 31: replace "tile molten" with "the molten"

Column 8, line 41, replace "claim 10, wherein" with "claim 8, wherein"

MAILING ADDRESS OF SENDER (Please do not use customer number below):

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.322, 1.323, and 1.324. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1.0 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Attention Certificate of Corrections Branch, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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Page 1 of 1

PATENT NO. : US 6,818,106
APPLICATION NO.: 10/713,798
ISSUE DATE : 11/16/2004
INVENTOR(S) : LeRoy E. D'Astolfo and Calvin Bates

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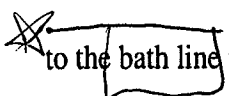
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[0033] Upon submersion into the Hall Cell the bath block coating was dissolved up

 to the bath line in less than 5 minutes. The dissolution of the bath block from the submerged portion of the anode allowed current to flow for the production of aluminum metal. Importantly, the dissolved bath block insulation was of such composition that it didn't contaminate the metal or the cryolite used in the Hall Cell. This provided a simple, inexpensive compatible anode support useful for aluminum production.

[0034] Having described the presently preferred embodiments, it is to be understood that the invention may be otherwise embodied within the scope of the appended claims.

LeRoy D' Astolfo
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Filed November 13, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) An electrolysis apparatus operating to produce aluminum comprising: a plurality of anodes each attached to a top plate by a metal bolt extending from the top plate to the anode top, each anode having a lower portion immersed in a cryolite-based molten electrolyte bath, wherein and a solid material selected from the group consisting of alumina and cryolite, and mixtures thereof, together with an effective amount of cementitious binder, said solid material contacting and having a thickness to completely circumscribe circumscribing at least an upper portion of at least one of said anodes, where the solid material dissolves into the molten electrolyte during electrolysis to the extent the remaining solid material thickness is from 30% to 80% of the original thickness yet still circumscribes the top sides of the anodes, leaving the lower portion of the anodes free to contact the bath.

2. (Currently Amended) The electrolysis apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the anodes are inert anodes, and the solid material is of such a composition that its dissolution does not contaminate the bath, or aluminum produced.

3. (Canceled)

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4. (Currently Amended) The electrolysis apparatus of Claim 1 ~~also-~~
~~containing a~~ wherein the top metal plate is metal.

5. (Original) The electrolysis apparatus of Claim 1 where the solid
material comprises from about 40 wt.% to about 80 wt.% cryolite, about 2 wt.% to about
25 wt.% alumina and from about 5 wt.% to about 25 wt.% of cementitious binder
material.

6. (Original) The electrolysis apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the solid
material comprises alumina containing from 5 wt.% to 15 wt.% of cementitious binder
material.

7. (Original) The electrolysis apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the solid
material will dissolve at temperatures of about 1000°C in the presence of a cryolite-based
molten electrolyte bath. ★

8. (Original) The electrolysis apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the solid
material will dissolve to the extent where the remaining solid material thickness is from
30% to 80% of the original thickness.

9. (Canceled)

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10. (Currently Amended) An electrolysis apparatus operating to produce aluminum comprising an inert anode system comprising: at least one inert anode attached to a top plate by a metal bolt extending from the top plate to the inert anode top, the inert anode having a lower portion immersed in contact with a cryolite-based molten salt electrolyte bath, where at least an upper portion of the at least one inert anode contacts and is completely circumscribed by a solid material having a thickness to completely circumscribe said at least one anode, said solid material subject to attack by gases from the bath, wherein the solid material is selected from the group consisting of alumina-based cement and cryolite-alumina, both of which will dissolve into the molten salt bath in the presence of the molten salt bath during electrolysis to the extent the remaining solid material thickness is from 30% to 80% of the original thickness yet still circumscribes the top sides of the at least one inert anode, leaving the lower portion of the at least one anodes free to contact the bath.

11. (Original) The electrolysis apparatus of Claim 10 where the solid material is about 40 wt.% to 80 wt.% cryolite, about 2 wt.% to 25 wt.% alumina, and 5 wt.% to 25 wt.% of a cementitious material.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

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Issued Claim 8

14. (Currently Amended) The electrolysis apparatus of Claim 10,
wherein the solid material will dissolve to the extent that the remaining solid material
thickness is from 40% to 70% of the original support thickness, and the solid material is
of such a composition that its dissolution does not contaminate the bath, or aluminum
produced.

15. (Original) The electrolysis apparatus of Claim 10, wherein the
cement material is an alumina based refractory cement.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Original) The electrolysis apparatus of Claim 10, where the solid
material is applied by casting.

18. (Original) The electrolysis apparatus of Claim 10, where the solid
material is applied by spraying.

19. (Original) The electrolysis apparatus of Claim 10, where the solid
material is applied by dipping.